

\$500,000,000 at such time or times and upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Treasury with the approval of the President shall deem in the interest of the United States.

SEC. 2. The authority herein granted shall be in addition to any other authority provided by law.

SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sum or sums not to exceed \$500,000,000 as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this joint resolution.

Approved, February 7, 1942.

Appropriation au-  
thorized.  
Post, p. 89.

#### [CHAPTER 48]

#### AN ACT

Authorizing the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to grant an easement for highway purposes to the county of Macon, Alabama, in a strip of land located at Veterans' Administration Facility, Tuskegee, Alabama.

February 7, 1942  
[S. 1889]

[Public Law 443]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to grant an easement for highway purposes to the county of Macon, Alabama, in the following-described property located at Veterans' Administration Facility, Tuskegee, Alabama:

Tuskegee, Ala.  
Easement for high-  
way purposes.

Beginning at a point in the north property line of the United States of America and known as Veterans' Administration Facility, Tuskegee, Alabama, said point being located in the east west center of section 13, township 17, range 23, twenty-one and sixty-six one-hundredths chains east of the west boundary of said section; thence east ninety-four one-hundredths chains along the north property line of the United States of America; thence south fifteen degrees sixteen minutes east seven and two-tenths chains; thence south thirteen degrees six minutes east four and four hundred and sixteen one-thousandths chains to a point in the east property line of the United States of America; thence south three and fifteen one-hundredths chains along said east property line to a corner in the property line of the United States of America; thence west two-tenths of a chain along the south property line of the United States of America; thence north thirteen degrees six minutes west seven and four hundred and twenty-six one-thousandths chains; thence north fifteen degrees sixteen minutes west seven and forty-three one-hundredths chains to the point of beginning, containing one and twenty-three one-hundredths acres, more or less.

Description.

Approved, February 7, 1942.

#### [CHAPTER 49]

#### AN ACT

To amend section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

February 7, 1942

[H. R. 5249]

[Public Law 444]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, approved June 21, 1938, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (c) thereof and by adding after subsection (b) the following new subsections:

Natural Gas Act,  
amendments.  
52 Stat. 824.  
15 U. S. C. § 717f.

"(c) No natural-gas company or person which will be a natural-gas company upon completion of any proposed construction or extension shall engage in the transportation or sale of natural gas, subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, or undertake the construction or extension of any facilities therefor, or acquire or operate any such facilities or extensions thereof, unless there is in force with respect

Certificate of public  
convenience and  
necessity.

*Proviso.*  
Companies in bona  
fide operation.

to such natural-gas company a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Commission authorizing such acts or operations: *Provided, however,* That if any such natural-gas company or predecessor in interest was bona fide engaged in transportation or sale of natural gas, subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, on the effective date of this amendatory Act, over the route or routes or within the area for which application is made and has so operated since that time, the Commission shall issue such certificate without requiring further proof that public convenience and necessity will be served by such operation, and without further proceedings, if application for such certificate is made to the Commission within ninety days after the effective date of this amendatory Act. Pending the determination of any such application, the continuance of such operation shall be lawful.

Hearings and decisions.

"In all other cases the Commission shall set the matter for hearing and shall give such reasonable notice of the hearing thereon to all interested persons as in its judgment may be necessary under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Commission; and the application shall be decided in accordance with the procedure provided in subsection (e) of this section and such certificate shall be issued or denied accordingly: *Provided, however,* That the Commission may issue a temporary certificate in cases of emergency, to assure maintenance of adequate service or to serve particular customers, without notice or hearing, pending the determination of an application for a certificate, and may by regulation exempt from the requirements of this section temporary acts or operations for which the issuance of a certificate will not be required in the public interest.

*Proviso.*  
Temporary certificates.

Application for certificate.

"(d) Application for certificates shall be made in writing to the Commission, be verified under oath, and shall be in such form, contain such information, and notice thereof shall be served upon such interested parties and in such manner as the Commission shall, by regulation, require.

Requirements, etc.,  
for issuance of certificates.

"(e) Except in the cases governed by the provisos contained in subsection (c) of this section, a certificate shall be issued to any qualified applicant therefor, authorizing the whole or any part of the operation, sale, service, construction, extension, or acquisition covered by the application, if it is found that the applicant is able and willing properly to do the acts and to perform the service proposed and to conform to the provisions of the Act and the requirements, rules, and regulations of the Commission thereunder, and that the proposed service, sale, operation, construction, extension, or acquisition, to the extent authorized by the certificate, is or will be required by the present or future public convenience and necessity; otherwise such application shall be denied. The Commission shall have the power to attach to the issuance of the certificate and to the exercise of the rights granted thereunder such reasonable terms and conditions as the public convenience and necessity may require.

Terms and conditions.

Determination of service area.

"(f) The Commission, after a hearing had upon its own motion or upon application, may determine the service area to which each authorization under this section is to be limited. Within such service area as determined by the Commission a natural-gas company may enlarge or extend its facilities for the purpose of supplying increased market demands in such service area without further authorization.

Service of area already being served.

"(g) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as a limitation upon the power of the Commission to grant certificates of public convenience and necessity for service of an area already being served by another natural-gas company."

Approved, February 7, 1942.